



September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Sparx Maths Homework

We are writing to let you know that just as last year students will be completing their maths homework on Sparx Maths. Sparx is an exciting online platform that offers every student a personalised Maths homework.

We know that you want to support your child's Maths progress so we've put together this letter to explain how Sparx works and why it is important to make sure that Maths homework is 100% completed.

How does Sparx homework work?

Sparx personalises each student's homework, creating a weekly set of questions tailored to their level of understanding and learning pace. The questions are designed to be achievable whilst offering the stretch that learners need to make progress.

Each week, topics are set by your child's Maths teacher and will make up the majority of the homework questions. Questions from previous topics will also be included in the homework so that students can keep practising the skills they have learned. All working out and answers, including the question code needs to be written into their orange Sparx book that every student has been given.

When is SPARX set and when is it due?

This year SPARX homework will be set every Wednesday and due for the following Wednesday, this is the case even if your child does not have a Maths lesson on that day as SPARX automatically sets the homework and on the hand-in day alerts staff as to whether it has been completed and if not 100% completed then what percentage has been completed. If you could also check SPARX yourselves every Monday or Tuesday night before the Wednesday deadline and remind your child to complete it if not already done so we know from experience this will get them into good habits of completing homework in plenty of time ahead of the Wednesday deadline.

How can I help my child with their homework?

We appreciate that you will of course want to support your child with their home learning but please try not to help them with a question until they've had a go first! It is really important that they complete their homework independently, and that questions are marked as correct. They can watch the support video if they need to. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework that's at the right level for them.

Motivation ♦ Commitment ♦ Care

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Principals Mark Gilmore & Rachael Merritt



Here is a video link that you can watch to give you a better understanding of how the program works:

<https://sparxmaths.com/parents/>

Why does my child need to achieve 100% compulsory homework completion?

Sparx Homework is deliberately designed to help students really get to grips with and understand the concepts and skills they are learning by ensuring they cover the essential building blocks needed to make progress in Maths. Sparx' research (sparx.co.uk/evidence) has shown that an average of 30 minutes a week in KS3 and 60 minutes a week in KS4 of this type of personalised Maths home learning leads to clear progress. It is therefore advised that students do their homework as early as possible, so they have the time to have a go themselves and seek help from their teacher if needed. Homework is not marked as complete until **all** of the compulsory questions have been answered correctly, so starting early is key to finishing before hand-in time.

You can keep track of your child's homework completion in the weekly email you will receive from Sparx and you will also receive a weekly text/email message on a Monday if your child has not yet completed 75% of the homework.

We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success and confidence in Maths to grow.

What can we do if my child forgets their login details?

Most students will be able to login using the "Log into SPARX using Microsoft" button if they are using a device which is signed into Microsoft using their school login details, using this option will not require students to enter a username or password so is very efficient once setup. If they don't have a device signed into Microsoft using their school details they need to click the "Forgotten SPARX login details" button and follow the onscreen instructions. Failing this, students should see their Maths teacher in lesson (before the hand-in date) or email them to explain the situation.

Yours sincerely,

I Lancashire

Mr I Lancashire
Curriculum Team Leader Maths

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